



# Foggy Bottom News

March 2000

Published by the citizens of Foggy Bottom and the West End

Volume 42, No. 5

## GWU Buys Interest in Columbia Plaza

### Campus Plan Calls For More Students

By Michael Thomas

On January 4 George Washington University acquired the interests of several limited partners in the partnership which owns Columbia Plaza, amounting to 28.55% of the ownership. In addition, GW entered into agreements with several other partners whereby it would be given a first right to make an offer if they wished to sell. Those interests amount to another 20-25%.

Under the terms of the agreements entered into, GW can designate or nominate tenants for approximately 240 of the 800 units in the complex. Nominees would be students without past conduct problems or prior evictions, and perhaps faculty. In addition, University judicial officers will occupy two apartments. Currently, GW students occupy about 200 units. GW has no right to evict current tenants, and will not have the right to evict student tenants hereafter.

However, GW counsel believes that the ownership interest provides a basis for treating Columbia Plaza as part of the campus for purposes of enforcing the student code of conduct. Penalties for violation of the code could include withholding transcripts or refusing re-registration to offending students. Letters will go out to current student tenants soon, advising them of the new regime.

GW describes the acquisition of its interest in Columbia Plaza as a response to complaints of serious misbehavior by

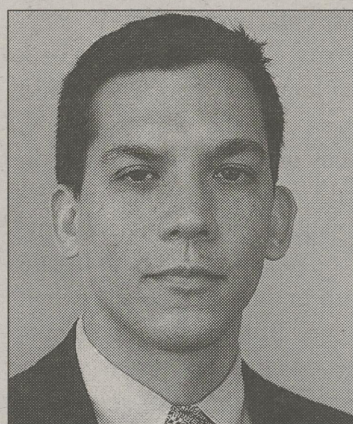
*Columbia Plaza, to page 3*



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And mention you saw them in the Foggy Bottom News. Many thanks.



Norman S. Dong

## Update

### GWU Demolishes Virginia Avenue Houses

Beginning on Friday, February 11, GWU razed a row of townhouses in the 2300 block of Virginia Avenue. Several other townhouse structures facing 23rd Street have been demolished as well; GWU earlier razed additional houses on 23rd and G Streets. Currently, the university owns all the land in that block, Square 43, except the Remington at 24th & G, and three houses at 23rd and Virginia owned by Don Kreuzer. Square 43, along with the former Howard Johnson, is outside the official campus boundaries.

The block is zoned for

*Update, to page 4*

### FBA 2000 MEETINGS

March 27

April 24

May 22

June 26

## Deputy Mayor/ City Administrator Dong at February FBA meeting

Norman S. Dong, Deputy Mayor for Operations and City Administrator for the District of Columbia, will be the featured speaker at the February 28 FBA meeting. It will be held in the North Atrium Lobby, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, at 7:30 p.m.

Also at the meeting will be a presentation by representatives of the Kennedy Center, updating the community on its proposed access plan.

In his current post with the D. C. government, Mr. Dong handles the city's day-to-day operations. His duties include supervision of and support for the directors of the various government agencies, and resolving problems between agencies. His office describes his major responsibility as "translating the Mayor's vision into the practical reality of how government works."

His relationship to the Mayor started when Williams was Chief Financial Officer, with Dong serving as his chief of staff. His later positions included Director of the Office of Grants Management and Development, Deputy Chief of Staff for Management under Camille Barnett, and Interim City Administrator. He was named to his present post in December 1999.

The FBA has asked Dong to describe his responsibilities, especially as they differ from the more political operations of the Mayor's office, and to relate experiences he recalls which might illustrate the responsibilities and differences.

Mark your calendars now to join us at "our little neighborhood theater" for both presentations.

**Directions:** Enter through the Hall of States, the northernmost main entrance hallway. Take the elevator (on the right halfway down the Hall) to the Roof Terrace level. The North Atrium Foyer is directly across from you as you enter the main corridor on the Roof Terrace level.

## FOGGY BOTTOM ASSOCIATION MEETING

All Residents Welcome

Speaker:

**Norman S. Dong**  
Deputy Mayor for Operations  
and City Administrator

Monday, February 28, 2000

North Atrium Lobby  
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts  
7:30 p.m.

(March meeting, March 27, 2000)





## Letters

### Two Views on the GWU Hospital

#### The Fog in Foggy Bottom

I find Foggy Bottom a wonderful place to live. I love the small houses on quiet streets, the feeling of being surrounded by friendly neighbors. Yet over the years many of these small houses and quiet streets have disappeared. They have been replaced . . . by our present highway system, by . . . a larger GWU campus, by the Kennedy Center, by the Watergate. The list goes on.

Over the years, there are people in Foggy Bottom who have worked tirelessly to protect and preserve our neighborhood. We owe them our thanks. And I thank them, and I respect them.

But I must tell you that somewhere down this path I think a line has been crossed. Perhaps because the bitterness of too many defeats has nurtured too much negative feeling. Perhaps because "fighting for the sake of fighting" has become too ingrained.

Here is one king-sized example: The good news is that there is a hospital in Foggy Bottom, run by GWU, with

more than 50 years of distinguished service to the community. The bad news is that it is an old hospital, and to a certain extent it has run downhill.

The really good news should be that there is an attempt to revitalize that hospital. An essential part of that process will be the construction of a new hospital building. And yet—and yet—this really good news has been met with vehement opposition from some parts of this community. Petitions have been circulated. Objections have been raised in the ANC and before the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Lawsuits have been filed. A demonstration was organized.

This is a mistake. This is dumb. This is stupid. This is wrong. This is foggy thinking. This is the fog in Foggy Bottom.

You and I will want the quickest possible access to the best, most up-to-date medical care that can be found anywhere in the world. That's what we want. And we want it to be in place—and running—as soon as possible.

Now let's not kid ourselves, there will be problems associated with the construction of this new building, and growing pains thereafter. Traffic congestion, streets blocked during construction, perhaps a noisier neighborhood. I think of friends of mine who live near the building site, and of myself as well.

Is all this inconvenience worth the increased quality of health care? I say yes.

*Don Meyer  
25th Street*

*The above is an excerpt from an address given by Meyer as part of the lunchtime program at St. Mary's Court.*

#### Meyer Letter Welcome

Don Meyer's letter is welcome for two reasons. First, it reminds us of the wide diversity of opinion in Foggy Bottom on matters relating to any proposed development, particularly any by GW University. Second, it represents a challenge to those who would speak for the community to focus on opportunities and on real issues, rather than on personalities and old antagonisms.

There is much to agree with in the letter. To the extent Foggy Bottom has been preserved as a residential neighborhood, that has been in large part due to the efforts of volunteer advocates, and we owe them a lot. It is also true that some of our warriors seem to have come through those battles with so many scars and bad memories that new issues are seen through a filter of personal antagonism—and not without cause.

The proposed new GWU Hospital is a good test case. It represents almost \$100 million of new money to build a state-of-the-art hospital in our community to replace an aging and marginally adequate facility. (Having had two operations in the old facility in December, I renew my dedication to the idea that a substantial upgrade is good for all of us.) The new hospital partnership also adds substantially to the tax base, since it and its facility are taxed as a for-profit business.

Such facts do not justify a conclusion that efforts to challenge the location and configuration of the proposed hospital to seek the best possible accommodation of community interests are "dumb," or "stupid," or "foggy thinking."

The proposed site does not just push the high-rise campus another block into the community; it presents truly major design problems. It is in the midst of complex and dense traffic patterns, yet affords access on only two sides. Multiple curb cuts, including

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## FOGGY BOTTOM NEWS

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Editor  
Ad Manager  
Contributors

Ellie Becker  
Olga Corey

Laetitia Combrinck, John Graves,  
Jim McLeod, Kate McLeod  
Rennie Melonson, Michael Thomas

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cuts for emergency vehicles, would face crowds of pedestrians using the hospital and the adjacent Metro entrance. In place of four loading docks, all on commercial streets, in the old hospital, it is proposed to have one large dock facing the historic residential district.

Mr. Meyer apparently accepts that reconstruction of the old hospital, or construction elsewhere, or improved design, are either impossible or not worth pursuing. Thus far, the hospital partnership has not bothered to demonstrate that reconstruction or construction on a more adequate site are not feasible. The initial and very incomplete environmental screening done for the D. C. Department of

Consumer and Regulatory Affairs concludes that air quality standards at the proposed site are very near to violation, even assuming no use of the old hospital site.

Even if a new hospital is ultimately built on this site, attention to serious concerns such as these at the demolition and building permit stage may lead to improvements that are significant to many in Foggy Bottom, if not to Mr. Meyer.

We need to guard against knee-jerk antagonism, and to focus on issues that are real, important, and susceptible to change. But the price of community values, like that of freedom, is eternal vigilance.

*Michael Thomas  
FBA Vice President*

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## Becker Beat



### Some Whys Other Than Why2K

Why do so many of the D. C. government phone numbers change in the two or three months AFTER the new phone books come out? Or at least it seems that way. But perhaps many don't notice it because it's so hard to lift the new 6+-lb. D. C. phone book.

Why do many if not all of the mailboxes in northwest D. C. have a 10:00 a.m. pickup time? Surely the trucks can't get them all at 10:00. Why not post the pickup times more realistically?

Why do folks who line up to buy coffee or food from a vendor always stretch ACROSS a sidewalk and block pedestrian traffic, rather than ALONG the sidewalk, out of everyone's way?

Why did the driver of a U. S. Government automobile, parked illegally on 24th during rush hour (8:30 a.m.) October 6, think he can just throw his \$50 ticket on the ground? (It would be less arrogant and a lot more tactful if he took it away and threw it in a trashcan later, knowing that he would probably not be held responsible for it.)

Why does a bus carrying the team playing the Redskins need to have a police escort through Foggy Bottom on a quiet Sunday morning, with sirens blasting, when little or no traffic is in the way, it probably is on time, and the likelihood of danger to the Bills or whoever from FB residents is infinitesimal? (Well, maybe the Cowboys or Eagles might be in some small danger!)

### Profile—JunAnn Holmes

By Marifran Langvardt

A resident of Foggy Bottom since 1961, when did JunAnn's interest in animals begin? Clearly her childhood brought the experiences of living among pets, farm animals, and nature. Perhaps her fascination developed due to a lonely existence in foster care beginning at the age of three. While living on a farm JunAnn would try to take the animals to bed with her, not wanting them to be lonely. They were her first companions and the depth of her caring for all animals and most especially the endangered species has continued through her adult life.

Days off from work in Washington were spent in the zoo and keepers noticed the interaction between JunAnn



and the animals. Primates and elephants were most responsive and a new world opened for her as a volunteer. Working for Pan American Airways presented opportunities for international travel and what began as ski holidays eventually drifted to her passion—a gift for working with animals and focusing on the needs of the orangutans.

Having met Dr. Birute Galdikas in 1992, JunAnn soon traveled to Borneo in 1993. By the time of her retirement in 1998 she was an active volunteer working

among the orangutans in Borneo, making eight trips within the last six years. This gave her an opportunity to continue her work with Dr. Galdikas. Filled with energy and enthusiasm of one half her age, JunAnn also has dreams of working among the elephant and gorilla orphanages in Africa.

### Book Club Day at Dinanda Nooney's

By Ruth M. Knauff

A slide show, depicting the life and times of the Hansen family—and the Romanoff Caviar Company—came alive to the book club audience as the voice of Dinanda, on tape, explained so carefully, and with humor, the scenes and their relevance to the lives of the Hansen family. The unique develop-

ment of the Romanoff Caviar Company by Ferdinand Hansen, a wizard of entrepreneurial skill, is an unbelievable story of imagination, guts, inventiveness, steady pursuit of a goal—raising a family of four—and achieving monetary success as well.

Dinanda's voice, so carefully pitched, was the glue that held the great story together: the fine phrasing to prevent long sentences; the clever wit along the way; the immense knowledge of facts, people and places; and the honesty of detail. All this made a most enjoyable and professional presentation. It was accomplished by Dinanda herself—researching, photographing, examining material, and finally assembling a fascinating story, a historical record of a business and a family that merits the highest praise.

### Columbia Plaza, from page 1

students, and a way to insure better relations with other residents. However, the transaction also is part of a pattern of acquiring residential property near the campus, and GW officials give no reason to believe that they would not gladly acquire all of Columbia Plaza and any other existing or potential residential building.

### Campus Plan Proposal Set for March Hearing

On December 28, 1999, GWU submitted to the Board of Zoning Adjustment its proposed Campus Plan for the years 2000-2010. A first hearing is tentatively set for March 29, and a second for late April.

The draft plan anticipates substantial growth in enrollment and employment at the Foggy Bottom campus, and repeatedly calls for maximum flexibility in allowing GW to accommodate its changing needs. It includes no meaningful, enforceable standards to minimize or ameliorate impacts on the existing residential community of Foggy Bottom. Much of the expansion planned by GW is, in its view, not subject to oversight in the Campus Plan process, precisely because it will occur outside the existing boundaries of the campus.

In recent weeks, GW has razed residences it purchased in Square 43 (bounded by 23rd, 22nd & G Streets and Virginia Avenue), and has announced its purchase of an interest in the Columbia Plaza complex. The draft campus plan discloses future plans for two dormitories, administrative offices, and a new home for the Elliott School of International Affairs. All of the projects mentioned in this paragraph are outside the boundaries of the expiring Campus Plan, which the university does not propose to change. It has taken the position that information about

real estate owned outside the Plan boundaries is not relevant, and that no provisions of the Plan as approved apply to such properties. Thus, the appendices setting out detailed information about campus real estate contain no information about the former Howard Johnson's, the Foggy Bottom Inn, Columbia Plaza, or any of the properties in Square 43 or that part of Square 122 outside the current boundaries.

### Draft Plan Includes Enrollment Increase

GW proposes to retain the right, recognized under the expiring Plan, to increase enrollment from the current stated headcount of 16,657 to 20,000 students. If they did so, increases in staff and faculty would also occur. The total growth would be approximately 5,000 full-time equivalents (FTEs), implying a larger number during the school term. To accommodate the growth, something over 750,000 square feet of building space would be added *within* the campus boundaries. An undisclosed amount of other space in the surrounding blocks, mostly south of the campus, would also be added.

A "goal of the University," according to the draft, is "to house 80% of its full-time undergraduate students in University-owned or -controlled residential facilities." In conversation, President Trachtenberg has said that GW also wants to be able to offer housing to first-year law and medical students, some faculty, and even some maintenance workers. However, he makes it clear that he does not mean to provide the housing *within* the campus, but to pursue both dormitories and existing apartment buildings outside the boundaries.

President Trachtenberg's position is that the core campus must be used for purposes other than housing, because of zoning restrictions. He did not respond to a suggestion that the community might well support a relaxation of zoning restrictions *within* the campus, if the alternative was continued or accelerated acquisition of properties *outside* the campus.

### Plan Raises Other Issues

The issues of parking requirements, the use of the current hospital property, and the effect on construction and use of the proposed hospital remain of concern to Foggy Bottom residents.

The Columbia Plaza transaction is a perfect example of how GW sees the campus plan process. Obviously, the property is zoned residential, and so GW's use is "matter of right." No provision of the existing (or any future) Campus Plan applies, because the property is outside the Plan boundaries. Interested parties may inquire as to what they intend, but they may not get a response, nor is there anything that restricts their plans.

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**Update, from page 1**

residential use, and GWU reportedly will construct a dormitory on the property. President Trachtenberg told officers of the FBA in late

Foggy Bottom/West End residents at the first session. The first centered on quality of life: citizens want better traffic management to reduce congestion and noise, expanded availability of parking for resi-



January that final plans for the building are not available, but he hopes his "architects will do him proud." The comment was in response to a request that saving the townhouse facades would be appreciated by the residents, no longer a possibility.

### Mayor's Citizen Summit Lists FB Input

At the second session of the Neighborhood Action Summit held by the Mayor, a written report outlined two major themes expressed by

dents and greater priority given to pedestrians. They want clean streets and green neighborhoods.

The second was "Controlled Development: Citizens are concerned over the expansion of large institutions and want a better process whereby their voices are reflected in the institutions' development plans."

Specific suggestions included:

- Establish campus boundaries under the campus planning process and enforce those boundaries to prevent additional academic sprawl.

- Cap the GWU undergraduate process in the campus plan.
- Create a citywide academic sprawl forum under the Mayor's aegis.
- Consider some kind of curbing of tax exemptions or institute payment in lieu of taxes for nonprofits who convert taxable property to nonprofit use.

### Students Score GW Priorities

What do GW students think of their University's current budget priorities?

Not much, according to a survey conducted by the GW Student Association.

The 20-page survey report, released in mid-February, concludes that "71% of GW students, graduate and undergraduate alike, do not believe that GW gives them the education that they pay for."

Student comments quoted in the report urge that "the budget should be aimed toward bettering the education of students already enrolled at GW, rather than bringing in new students . . . and the administration should focus more on the conditions that exist for current students rather than on new recruitment." Finally, they expressed the hope that "existing students will be given the opportunity to enjoy a challenging learning experience rather than just buying their education."

Specific recommendations include—

- smaller classes and adequate classroom space (no students sitting on the floor);

- more and better-paid teachers;
- expanded and improved financial aid.

A repeated complaint is that "the University spends too much money on bricks and mortar, esoteric landscaping, financing new buildings and real estate."

This is a serious, thoughtful report. Foggy Bottom residents will find it interesting.

### Roosevelt Bridge Study Presented

At a February meeting, the Department of Public Works held an open house to inform and solicit ideas from the public about its plans for the bridge. Among the items discussed were traffic patterns, population densities, signage and the moveable barriers. A major theme was the bridge's present deteriorating condition, and also discussed were environmental factors. No proposals for actual changes or work of any kind were in evidence at this meeting. Public comments are welcome by e-mail to Comments@trbridge.com, and additional information is available from DPW's Maurice Keys at 671-0497.

### River Inn Celebrates 20th

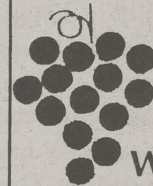
The River Inn on 25th Street is celebrating its 20th year in historic Foggy Bottom. Since its inception in 1980, it has been owned and operated by Potomac Hospitality Services. To join the celebration, mention this article and receive 25% off your next stay at the Inn.

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New marbled floors and plush sofas and chairs are in place after a just-completed renovation program, along with 25-inch TVs with 40 cable channels and two-line phone systems with voicemail and data ports. The hotel is also the location of the Foggy Bottom Cafe restaurant.

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## Watergate Gallery To Show Kevin Adams' Works

Dale Johnson, owner of Watergate Gallery and Frame Design, is welcoming a new show, "Place and Presence," of the works of artist Kevin Adams. As an artist, Adams has moved from wildlife studies, through figurative and still life paintings, to panoramic landscapes. Earlier the U. S. Department of the Interior commissioned works by Adams of the Grand Canyon and Glacier National Park.

Adams commented recently about his new work, saying he had recently "focused on large landscapes . . . on large canvasses—five feet by five feet or so. Having had the opportunity to be expansive, this exhibition at the Watergate, which is an intimate gallery, has refocused me on more intimate places and subjects that have a sense of presence for reasons other than grand scale."

The exhibition, which opens with a reception on March 24, from 6:00-9:00 p.m., continues at the Gallery, 2552 Virginia Avenue, until May 2.



Daganian and Yaron Steinfeld and fat friend

## So We Had Some Snow . . .

The season's second snowfall caused the cancellation of the January FBA meeting, which would have featured Councilmember-at-Large David Catania. The decision to cancel was based on the presence of slippery streets, a real threat to older residents—and younger ones too. Councilmember Catania will speak at the April 24 FBA meeting.

The first snowfall was partly responsible for the changed format of the FBNews. The typesetting for that paper was delayed until it was too late for the regular printing, and then the snow came. So the answer seemed to be to produce it on a home



computer and have it printed nearby. The trek to Copy General on L Street the day after the snow was a hazardous experience, as was their delivery the next day, as their employee wheeled three large boxes to St. Mary's Court on a handtruck, traversing unshoveled sidewalks and piles of piled-up snow, ice and slush.

And hats off to the News' regular paperpersons who delivered door-to-door despite the weather.

## Sidewalks Are Owners' Responsibility

Make no mistake: clearing the public sidewalks is NOT the city's job—it is the resident's job.

So—homeowners and residents:

- Buy or borrow a snowshovel, and use it if and when we have another snowstorm.



The Mayor braves the storm



Benito Juarez:  
"What Is This Stuff?"

## Edmond Chin

Edmond Chin, who lived at 906 New Hampshire Avenue, died of cancer in early December at the age of 64. A native of Washington, he attended Western High School and American University, had a Ph.D. in chemistry, and worked at the U. S. Bureau of Mines. At the time of his retirement in 1994,

he was a branch chief and had become its chief analyst of the minerals industry in China. He is survived by five brothers and two sisters.

Ed and his smile were familiar to the neighbors, as was his mother who lived with Chin prior to her death. He was especially fond of the pets in the area, and often helped by pet-sitting. His neighbors and their pets miss him.

- If you are able to do so, clear the walk of your neighbor who is out of town.
- Hire men who come around offering to shovel; it should be worth it, especially if your muscles are unused to the task.
- There is a possibility that the GW Student Association (994-7100) will help if you're physically unable to clear your walks.
- Buy a bag of sand and use it where ice is present.
- Do your duty to yourselves and your neighbors and your community.

Unshoveled sidewalks are a danger to yourselves and others who pass by, may result in passersby walking in the streets, another danger, and in some cases will result in non-delivery of your mail and other material.

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## Foggy Bottom Folks

**Dorothy Ohliger** is one of FBFolks' best correspondents, keeping us up to date on some former FB residents. A most welcome contribution



Dorothy Ohliger

was a copy of a holiday letter from **May Aaberg's** cousin Carol to report on her big complaint, "sit-itis." May says she's "Alive and Well," although confined to a wheelchair in Westhills Village, 255 Texas Street, Rapid City, SD 57701. May lived for many years in the Claridge, worked for former Minnesota Congressman Ancher Nelsen, and moved back to her home state several years ago. Some years back she was the backbone of the FBNews distribution system. Carol's letter described lots of activities, mail and visitors, but she can always use more!

Dorothy also let us know of the passing of **Virginia Tannar Sandifer**, also a former resident of the Claridge. Sandifer's field was social work, involving casework, teaching and training, and curriculum development. She was also an exhibited artist and was active in the Women's National Democratic Club. Sandifer died December 14 at the age of 97.

Did you see the long article in the Post about the restored and new building at

Holy Trinity Church in Georgetown? To FBA's Membership Director **Kate Clinton** it was the "finale of this wonderful campaign," in which she participated as a fundraiser. At the dawning of the 21st century, she was off to Sante Fe for a vacation, and then to a post as head of development for the Phillips Collection.

For some months folks in FB have been missing **Mac Press** which left its Columbia Plaza location during 1999, mostly due to increased rents and other costs. Then we lost **Parcel Plus** in the Watergate Mall, and now Kinko's has left 2000 Penn. For copying and other such services we still have **Mail Boxes, Etc.** on L Street and **Watergate Photo & Copy**, and the copier in the **Columbia Plaza Pharmacy**. By the way, do you know the pharmacy's post office has mail pickups on Saturday and Sunday afternoons? And up near Pennsylvania Avenue, the **Dove & Rainbow** has closed, and the **Westbridge Valet** may also be leaving. It has been reported that the **Riggs Bank** office there will move a few doors away, as a firm takes over their old space.

**Bernard Mozer** of Potomac Plaza Terraces exhibited some of his unique sculpture and ceramics at the Jackson Art Center in December. The holiday event showcased Mozer and the other artists whose studios occupy the center. The artists' works include photography, pottery, paper arts, and paintings in several media. Mozer formerly held office as an Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner and as chair of ANC-2A.

There was a fascinating paragraph included in **Lucille Molinelli's** holiday "essay"

which tickled the imagination: "The space and satellite programs are mind-boggling for average persons to completely comprehend. Just think: is it not conceivable, in the future, that the White House will be moved to a space ship floating all over the USA and foreign territories? Why are we spending billions of dollars of hard-earned taxes to support Air Force One and huge Secret Service protection, when our President could just



zoom down to earth for negotiations, political fundraising, state visits, get-away vacations and golfing engagements in an airborne glider or parachute?"

From the Griffin on 26th Street **Ed Gable** waxed somewhat eloquently about the addition of new city-planted trees on the property abutting the Whitehurst Freeway. The photo shows some of them, and includes the children's playground on the west side of 26th. An FBA committee is meeting to discuss changes and improvements to the playground and park with funds from Westbanc, and hopes to make progress in time for the warmer weather.

The 2500 block of I Street has welcomed a whole bunch of new residents in the past couple of years, so many they have been difficult to keep up with. Among them are **Vivian Kuo**, **Mitchell Weitzman**,

**Diane Bell**, **Diana Tiberi**, **Shibu Dhar**, **Daphne Marinopoulos**, and **Scott and Shirley Wayne**.

Missing from the block is a favorite resident, Master **Sam Phillips**, who moved to Austin, Texas, with his parents, **Betsy Cooper** and **Scott Phillips**. Also residing part of the year in Austin is his grandmother, **Ruth Cooper**, who lived near to her handsome grandson prior to the move.

after utility work. As an example I showed him a place in the sidewalk where a gas repair was made and about 20 bricks were not replaced, leaving a large hole marked by an orange cone for weeks and weeks, if not months. He looked at it, gathered a co-worker and some tools, and in 15 minutes it was fixed. (The residents of the house it was in front of had called DPW repeatedly to no avail.) Nice work, Flippo; it is the company which earlier did much of the brick work on our sidewalks.

And speaking of I Street, here's one for the "You Can't Win" department: Several homeowners have "massacred" the weed collection in their tree spaces, expending time and funds to make them bloom with various kinds of attractive plants. However, there seems to be some kind of height limitation which their plantings exceeded. So, lo and behold, they received citations from the city.

Two longtime residents have left FB, both from the Bonwit at 24th & H Streets. **Alice Plaisted**, gracious lady and superb photographer, has moved to a residence for re-

FBFolks, to page 7

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## FBFolks, from page 6

tired military personnel and spouses in the Bethesda area. And **Katherine Hartman**, another retired but extremely busy lady, is now residing at Thomas House, joining a number of others from the Foggy Bottom area. (We have a lively FBA alumni group at the senior residence on Massachusetts Avenue; Thomas House has been an advertiser in the FBNews.)

Where haven't FB folks been this year? **Evelyn Manning** sojourned in Paris last fall; **Charlie Clapp**, one of our most frequent jetsetters, went to Brazil; **Ellie Becker** took an Elderhostel cruise in the Inland Passage of Alaska, after several days revisiting Vancouver and Victoria, Canada. And in October a shorter trip to a big farmhouse in Cambridge, Maryland, for a family reunion, bringing together, from 16 states, her siblings and spouses, nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews and one great grandnephew, more than 80 in all.

**Paul Sakwa**, a resident of the Elise and a faithful FBNews' "paperperson," told us about his neighbor, **Karen Carroll**, who runs Karen's Personal Projects. Karen's motto is "For the Job You Don't Have Time For," such as catering, personal shopping and the like. Her phone is 625-7980.

And check out our ads for good people to help you. **Joan Himmelhoch** does personal bookkeeping—perhaps a needed talent from now until the dreaded April deadline—and beyond. (Not too long ago I had a call from one of her very satisfied customers.) And a new advertiser, **Singleton Cleaning Service**. She appears to be a lady of many talents. **Burl Williams**, the Senior Handyman, is another great resource, as is **Joe O'Donnell**, in tax-time and in other times as well.

Nice to find that the talents of 25th Street's **Barbara Barski-Carrow** are being utilized. She has become recognized as a human resources specialist, and made a presentation at Barnes & Noble in Georgetown. The subject was a three-stage process to support those recovering from trauma in the workplace.



Olga Corey with ever-present FB Button

The Washington Post says they call themselves "disaster gypsies," who travel to devastated areas with "a sympathetic ear, a knack for paperwork and, sometimes, an open checkbook." One such gypsy this fall was 26th Street resident and FBA Board Member **Olga Corey**, who spent several weeks working for the Federal Emergency Management Agency in flood-stricken areas in Virginia. She was one of the "gypsies" who worked at a center to assist residents with Federal relief efforts.

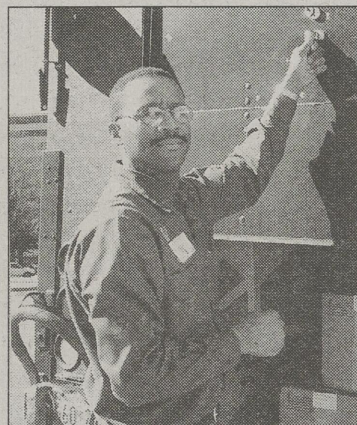
**Bill Dietrich**, who has sold his house on Virginia Avenue to GWU, reportedly for \$1.7 million, has a new



Rob Gardner

place in the Watergate. As a former resident of New York City, he may find a place there as well so he can spend some time on the great white way and environs.

You may see them every day, as they hop in and out of



Robin Roberson

their large brown vans, delivering to and picking up all sorts of material from Foggy Bottom residents. One is named **Rob Gardner**, and his beat is in the 25th and I Streets area. His colleague is named **Robin Roberson**, who is seen at Potomac Plaza and New Hampshire Avenue. They make 115 to 130 delivery stops per day, and pickups are on top of that. They are often seen still in Foggy Bottom in the evening, especially when they become Santa's brown-garbed elves.



Jack Olender with Christopher and Dana Reeve

## Olender Honors Christopher Reeve

At its annual awards event, the Olender Foundation awarded to Christopher Reeve its "America's Role Model 2000 Award" at a December ceremony at the Kennedy

Center. Jack Olender, the Foundation's president, said that "In the movie 'Superman,' Christopher Reeve played a superhero; now he is one. Not a hero of steel but of great heart, and a role model for us all."

Reeve urged his audience to join his campaign to increase research on spinal cord injuries and other central nervous system disorders.

Malpractice attorney Olender, who lives in Foggy Bottom, also awarded grants to UDC's David A. Clark School of Law, radio host Tom Joyner, NAACP Legal Defense Fund president Elaine R. Jones, and 12 Howard and UDC law students.

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## Neighborhood Datebook

**Saturday, February 26–Sunday, February 27:** “Dream of a Common Language,” a drama by Heather McDonald, presented by the GWU Department of Theatre and Dance. For info call 994-6178. \$10 general, \$8 students & seniors. Dorothy Betts Marvin Theatre, 800 21st Street, N.W. Saturday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, 2:00 p.m.

**Sunday, February 27:** “Absolutely American and all that Jazz,” a concert by soprano Carmen Baltrop, featuring music by Jack Gottlieb, Leslie Adams, George Gershwin and Duke Ellington. She will be accompanied by José Cáceres, and joined by the Washington Tango Trio, featuring Alejandro Muzio on Bandoneon and David Marsh on bass. National Academy of Sciences, 2100 C Street, N.W. 4:00 p.m.

**Monday, February 28:** Foggy Bottom Association monthly meeting. All residents are welcome. Presentations by the Kennedy Center on its proposed access plan, and by Norman S. Dong, the District’s Deputy Mayor for Operations and City Administrator. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, North Atrium Lobby, New Hampshire Avenue and F Street, N.W. 7:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, February 29:** Discussion and slide presentation by Hilary Mac Austin and Kathleen Thompson, editors of “The Face of Our Past: Images of Black Women from Colonial America to the Present.” Their book is a collection of photographs accompanied by quotations from letters, journals and other sources, and focuses on ordinary women rather than famous ones. It is presented as part of a “Conversations with the Authors” series; for info call 331-7282. Arts Club of Washington, 2017 Eye Street, N.W. 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 1:** Community Meeting of the Citizens Advisory Council, Second District, Metropolitan Police, with Wilma A. Lewis, U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia as guest speaker. Featured will be the announcement of the Community Prosecution Expansion project; the Second District’s new Community Outreach Specialist, Charlene Graves, will also be in attendance. For info call 282-0584. Second District headquarters, 3320 Idaho Avenue, N.W. (just west of Wisconsin Avenue and Newark Street.) 7:30 p.m.

**Thursday, March 2:** Reading by Jerome Rothenberg, author of over 60 books of poetry, including “Poems for the Game of Silence, Poland/1931,” presented by the GWU English Department as part of the Jenny McKean Moore Reading Series. For info call 994-6180. Stuart Hall, Room 110, 2013 G Street, N.W. 8:15 p.m.

**Through Sunday, March 5:** Exhibition of prints from Lou Stovall’s workshop, “Lou’s Favorite Flowers and Selected Collaborative Prints.” Stovall, a printmaker, painter, and arts

patron, collaborated with more than 80 well-known artists, including Alexander Calder. Arts Club of Washington, 2017 Eye Street, N.W. For info call 331-7282, ext. 23. Tuesday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

**Friday, March 10:** Opening of exhibitions by artists Margaret Olney-McBride and Grace V. Cole, part of the 1999-2000 exhibition season juried by Ross Merrill of the National Gallery of Art. For info call 331-7282, ext. 23. Arts Club of Washington, 2017 I Street, N.W. Tuesday–Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Opening reception, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

**Sunday, March 12:** Johansen International Competition Finals for young string players, presented by the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation. For info call 333-2075. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st Street, N.W. 11:00 a.m.

**Wednesday, March 15:** Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2-A meeting. For location call 736-1775. 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 15:** The “Conversations with the Authors” series presents Diane Rehm of National Public Radio reading from and discussing her recently published memoir, “Finding My Voice.” For info call 331-7282, ext. 25. Arts Club of Washington, D.C., 2017 I Street, N.W. 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, March 18–Sunday, March 19:** “Lights! Camera! Action!: Fabulous Favorites from the Stage and Screen,” by the Gay Men’s Chorus of Washington, D. C. For info call 338-SING. Tickets \$10, \$20 & \$30. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st Street, N.W. Saturday, 8:00 p.m.; Sunday, 3:00 p.m.

**Friday, March 24:** Opening reception for exhibition by Kevin H. Adams. Watergate Gallery & Frame Design, 2552 Virginia Avenue, N.W. For info call 338-4488. 6:00–9:00 p.m. (See article in this issue.)

**Through Friday, March 24:** Arts in the Academy exhibition of works by Florida-based, mixed-media artist Ruth Dryden Deshaies. National Academy of Sciences, 2100 C Street, N.W. For info call 334-2436. Monday–Friday, 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

**Saturday, March 25:** Mid-Atlantic Harmony Sweepstakes A Cappella Festival, presented by the Contemporary A Cappella Society of America. For info call 703-830-6870. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st Street, N.W. 8:00 p.m.

**Sunday, March 26:** Washington International Competition for String Players, sponsored by the Friday Morning Music Club Foundation. For info call 333-2075. Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st Street, N.W. 11:00 a.m.

**Monday, March 27:** Foggy Bottom Association monthly meeting, with David Cope, Executive Vice President of the Washington Redskins, as speaker. Wyndham Bristol Hotel, 2430 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. 7:30 p.m.

## Library To Close for Repairs

The West End Library will be closed from March 6 to April 4 for repairs and removal of asbestos. It is part of a library system-wide project, and has been planned for some months. Close-by library facilities include the Martin Luther King Library at 9th & G Streets (Metro Center or Gallery Place Metro stops), and the Georgetown Branch at Wisconsin & R (on the 30 bus line).

However, Barbara Kubinski told the News at press time that the closing may be delayed; she suggests you call before visiting the library.

## Other Library News

The West End Library has a new telephone number, 724-8707. And as a reminder, the library’s hours are Monday and Wednesday from 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.; and Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m. (closed on Sunday).

Officers of the West End Library Friends are Robert C. Brewster, President, Mary Lou Hennessy, Vice President, Helen Miko, treasurer, and Grace E. Watson, secretary. The Friends reported that they contributed over \$6,000 to the Library in the last fiscal year, most going to books and periodicals.

The library also received so-called “amenity” funds (\$130,000) from the developer of the Ritz Carlton complex at 22nd & M Streets. Proposed projects include reconfiguring the library space and moving the children’s section back to the second floor, as well as other improvements being considered.

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